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Applicant : Lubomir D. Bourdev, et al. Art Unit : 2672
Serial No. : 09/447,024 Examiner : Scott Wallace
Filed : November 22, 1999
Title : PROCESSING COMPLEX REGIONS OF ILLUSTRATION ARTWORK

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Response to Final Office Action Mailed April 26, 2002

Remarks

Claims 1-16 are pending and stand rejected. Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,049,339 to Schiller et al. ("Schiller"). The applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and respectfully requests reconsideration in light of the following remarks.

The applicant respectfully submits that Schiller fails to disclose or suggest at least one element of claim 1. For example, claim 1 recites: "determining a number of outlines of pieces of artwork that map to a cell of the grid; and identifying the cell as a complex region based on the determined number of outlines that map to the cell." The Examiner asserts that lines 43-47 of column 6 of Schiller discloses the quoted element. The applicant must respectfully disagree.

The passage cited by the Examiner describes a method that is significantly different from the one recited by claim 1. This passage describes assigning a complexity value to a tile based on "the number of path intersections occurring within its boundary plus the number of local minima and maxima that occur within the boundary." See Col. 6, lines 45-48. As specified by the passage, it is the number of path intersections that occur within the boundary of a tile that determines the complexity value of the tile. In sharp contrast, the determination recited by

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Mr. Carlos Brasil